



**News from the Shelby County Mayor's Office**

**Mark H. Luttrell, Jr., Mayor**

**11<sup>th</sup> Floor, 160 North Main, Memphis, Tennessee 38103**

All news releases can be seen at [www.shelbycountyttn.gov](http://www.shelbycountyttn.gov) in the News Release Listing

**Public Information Officer: Steve Shular**

[Steve.shular@shelbycountyttn.gov](mailto:Steve.shular@shelbycountyttn.gov)

**Office (901) 222-2047, Cell (901) 359-5117, Fax (901) 222-2005**

**September 20, 2013**

**Public Hearing Set for Kirby-Whitten (Shelby Farms) Parkway**

Citizens will have an opportunity next week to see and comment on the plan to build an extension of Kirby-Whitten (Shelby Farms) Parkway near Shelby Farms. The new road is designed to ease traffic congestion and provide better access to the park. The public hearing will include a presentation with questions and answers for the *de minimis* (minor) impacts to Shelby Farms Park and the walking trails in and near it.

**“The project involves Shelby County Government, the Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) and the City of Memphis. The meeting is part of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process which is required by the federal government for projects that use federal funds”** said Tom Needham, Director of Public Works for Shelby County Government.

The Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) will present the results of the environmental impact study on Tuesday, September 24, 2013, 5 p.m., at the Agricenter, 7777 Walnut Grove Road.

The four-lane parkway will connect Walnut Grove Road to Kirby-Whitten Road. Construction is proposed to begin in 2017. Recreational paths for bikers and walkers will also be connected to the new parkway.

The \$20 million project is cost-shared by the federal government and the City of Memphis. Shelby County engineers are also participating in the project design since the road passes through Shelby Farms, which is owned by Shelby County Government and managed by the Shelby Farms Park Conservancy.

For more information about the project and next week's public hearing, contact Margaret Slater, TDOT Environmental Division at (615) 253-2003, [Margaret.Slater@tn.gov](mailto:Margaret.Slater@tn.gov), Steve Chipman, TDOT Region 4 at (731) 935-0157, [Steve.Chipman@tn.gov](mailto:Steve.Chipman@tn.gov), or go to:

<http://www.tdot.state.tn.us/kirbyparkway/default.shtml>

**(End of Release)**